Daughters of the American
Revolution

Constitution

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DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CONSTITUTION

1890.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

DAUGHTERS

OF THE

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WASHINGTON CITY:
1890

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President General,

MRS. BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Vice Presidents General in Charge of Organization,

MRS. FLORA ADAMS DARLING,
2028 G St., Washington City.

Honorary Vice Presidents General,

MRS. JAMES K. POLK,
MRS. THOMAS A. HENDRICKS,
MRS. DAVID D. PORTER,

Vice Presidents General,

MRS. WM. D. CABELL,
Presiding.
MRS. A. W. GREELY,
MRS. G. BROWN GOODE,
MRS. WM. C. WINLOCK,
MRS. WM. EARLE,
MRS. H. V. BOYNTON,
MRS. F. O. ST. CLAIR,
MISS MARY DESHA,

Secretaries General,

MRS. ELLEN HARDIN WALWORTH, MISS S. P. BRECKINRIDGE.

Registrars General,

MISS EUGENIA WASHINGTON, MRS. A. HOWARD CLARKE.

Treasurer General,

MRS. MARSHALL McDONALD.

Historian General,

MRS. MARY S. LOCKWOOD.

Chaplain General,

MRS. TUNIS S. HAMLIN.

Surgeon General,

MISS CLARA BARTON.

Advisory Board.

MR. G. BROWN GOODE, Chairman, PROF. WM. C. WINLOCK, PROF. WM. D. CABELL, COL. MARSHALL McDONALD, MR. WM. O. McDOWELL, GEN'L H. V. BOYNTON, GEN'L MARCUS J. WRIGHT, REV. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, MR. EDWIN D. MEAD, MR. WILSON L. GILL, Secretary.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS

OF THE

AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The name of this Society shall be the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The objects of this Society are

(1) To perpetuate the memory and the spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence, by the acquisition and protection of historical spots and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries.

(2) To carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of

knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion, and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens.

(3) To cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION.

SECTION 1. Any woman may be eligible for membership who is of the age of eighteen years, and who is descended from an ancestor who, with unfailing loyalty, rendered material aid to the cause of Independence as a recognized patriot, as soldier or sailor, or as a civil officer in one of the several Colonies or States, or of the United Colonies or States; or from the mother of such a patriot; provided that the applicant shall be acceptable to the Society.

SEC. 2. After a local Board of Management shall have been established, all applications for membership shall be passed upon by the Local Board, and if the applicant shall be deemed satisfactory and her claims reasonable, the application shall receive the endorsement of the Secretary and Registrar, and be forwarded to the National Board of Management for final action.

SEC. 3. When twelve or more members of the Society shall be living in one locality they may organize a Chapter. They may elect a presiding officer whose title will be Regent, and who will be delegate to the National Congress of the Society, and a secretary and such other officers as may be required.

SEC. 4. When the Chapter shall have fifty members or more, it may elect an additional delegate to the National Congress, for each fifty members and fraction over twenty-five.

SEC. 5. The officers of the National Society shall be a President General, Vice President General in Charge of Organization, eight Vice Presidents General, two Secretaries General, two Registrars General, one Treasurer General, one His-

torian General, one Surgeon General, one Chaplain General, and such other officers as shall be found necessary. These officers shall be elected by ballot by a vote of the majority of the members present at the annual meeting of the Congress of the Society, and shall hold office for one year and until their successors shall be elected, and who, together with a Regent from each State chosen by the delegates from each State to the Congress, shall constitute a National Board of Managers, of which seven shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 6. A National Executive Committee of nine, of which the President General shall be Chairman *ex-officio*, shall be elected by the National Board of Managers, and shall, in the interim between the meetings of the Board, transact such business as shall be delegated to it by the National Board of Managers.

SEC. 7. The first Regent for each Chapter shall be appointed by the Vice President General in Charge of Organization, who shall also designate which Regent shall be member of the National Board of Managers for the first year.

ARTICLE IV.

INITIATION FEE AND DUES.

SECTION 1. The initiation fee shall be one ($1) dollar, which must be forwarded to the National Society with the application for membership; the annual dues two ($2) dollars; the payment at one time of twenty-five ($25) dollars shall constitute a life membership, with exemption from payment of dues thereafter, payable one-half to the Chapter and one-half to the National Society.

SEC. 2. The annual dues shall be payable on or before the 22nd of February in each year, one-half of which ($1) shall be forwarded to the National Society, and one-half retained for use by the Chapter.

ARTICLE V.

MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS.

SECTION 1. The annual congress for the election of officers and transaction of business shall be held in Washington City,

on the 22nd day of February, or if that be Sunday, on the following Wednesday, in each year. The annual meeting of the Chapters for the election of officers shall be on October 11th, or if that be on Sunday, on the following Wednesday.

SEC. 2. Special meetings shall be called by the Board of Managers, or by the President General when directed so to do by the Board of Managers, or when requested in writing so to do by twenty-five or more members representing Chapters in at least three States, on giving thirty days' notice, specifying the time and place of meeting and the business to be transacted.

SEC. 3. The following shall be members of all general or special meetings:

(1) All the officers and ex-Presidents General and ex-Vice Presidents General of the National Society.

(2) The Regents of the Chapters.

(3) One delegate for every fifty members of the Chapters

ARTICLE VI.

BY-LAWS.

The National Board of Managers shall have authority to adopt and promulgate the By-Laws of the National Society, to prescribe the duties of its officers, to provide its seal, and to designate its insignia.

ARTICLE VII.

AMENDMENTS.

Amendments to this Constitution may be offered at any meeting of the Society, but shall not be acted on until the next meeting. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be sent to the Regent and Secretary of each Chapter, at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which it is proposed to be acted upon.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS

OF THE

AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ARTICLE I.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Nominations of officers shall be made from the floor, and the election shall be made by ballot. A majority shall elect. The nominations may be acted upon directly, or may be referred to a committee to examine and report.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS.

The duties of the general officers shall be such as usually appertain to their offices, and they shall have such other duties as are hereinafter imposed. They shall report at the annual meeting, and at such other times as may, by the National Board of Managers, be directed.

ARTICLE III.

PRESIDENT GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The President General, in addition to her general duties, shall be *ex-officio* Chairman of the National Board

of Managers and of the Executive Committee, and a member of every other committee.

SEC. 2 At each annual meeting she shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

Committee on Auditing,
Committee on Finance.

The duties of the above committees shall be such as usually pertain to committees of like character, and such as may be defined by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE IV.

VICE PRESIDENT GENERAL.

SECTION 1. In the absence of the President General one of the Vice Presidents General shall be elected to preside at the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 2. In the prolonged absence or inability to act of the President General, the executive authority shall be vested in the Vice President General first in order of precedence.

ARTICLE V.

SECRETARIES GENERAL.

The Secretaries General, in addition to their general duties, shall have charge of the seal, give due notice of all meetings of the National Society or National Board of Managers, of which they shall be *ex-officio* members. They shall give due notice to all general officers and Chapters of all votes, orders and proceedings affecting or appertaining to their duties. They shall distribute all pamphlets, circulars, rosettes and supplies as directed by the National Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VI.

TREASURER GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The Treasurer General shall collect and receive the funds and securities of the National Society. She

shall deposit the same to the credit of the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, and shall dr[illegible]em thence for the use of the National Society as directed by it or by the National Board of Managers upon the order of the President General, countersigned by the Secretary General. Her accounts shall be audited by a committee to be appointed at the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 2. She shall, if so required by the General Board of Managers or the Executive Committee, give bonds for the safe custody and application of the funds.

ARTICLE VII.

REGISTRARS GENERAL.

The Registrars General shall keep a register of the names and dates of the election, resignation or death of all members of the several Chapters, and shall have the care and custody of all applications for membership, duplicates of which, properly approved by the National Officers, shall be retained by the Registrars of the Chapters. They shall issue, upon the requisition of the Secretaries or Registrars of the Chapters, certificates of membership and insignia to every member entitled thereto, through such Secretaries or Registrars.

ARTICLE VIII.

HISTORIAN GENERAL.

The Historian General shall have the custody of all the historical and biographical collections of which the National Society may become possessed, and shall catalogue and arrange the same, and shall place the same in a fire-proof repository for preservation. She shall prepare for official publication by the Society, historical and biographical sketches of the Revolutionary ancestors of members, and of distinguished women of the Revolution.

ARTICLE IX.

CHAPLAIN GENERAL.

The Chaplain General shall conduct such services as occasions may require.

ARTICLE X.

CHAPTERS.

Every Chapter shall

(1) Notify the Secretary General of the election and appointment of all officers and delegates.

(2) Pay to the Treasurer General on or before the 22nd day of February the sum of one dollar for each active member thereof.

(3) Transmit to the Registrar General all approved applications for membership, and notify her of the resignation or death of any members thereof.

ARTICLE XI.

GENERAL BOARD OF MANAGERS.

SECTION 1. The National Board of Managers shall prepare and carry out plans for promoting the objects and growth of the Society; shall generally superintend its interests and shall execute such other duties as shall be committed to it at any meeting of the National Society. It shall have charge of the printing of the Diploma and the manufacture of the Insignia, and shall determine the price at which the same shall be issued, and shall also have charge of printing all membership rolls.

SEC. 2. It shall have power to fill any vacancy occuring among the general officers, and an officer so elected shall act until the following annual election and until her successor shall be elected.

SEC. 3. The President General may call meetings of the National Board of Managers at any time she may deem necessary, and shall call such meeting upon the written request of any five members thereof, provided that not less than five days' notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be given.

ARTICLE XII.

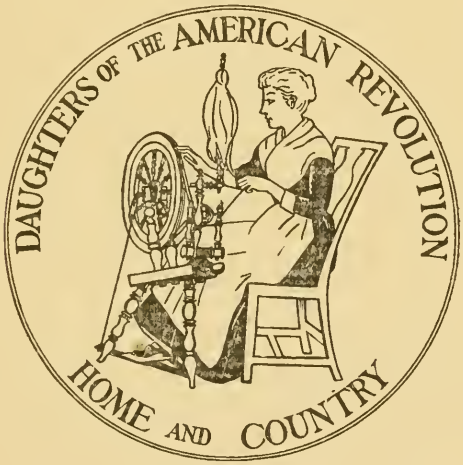
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The President General may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at any time, and shall call such meeting on the written request of three members thereof.

ARTICLE XIII.

SEAL.

The seal of the Society shall be two and three-eighths of an inch in diameter, charged with the figure of a dame of the Revolutionary time sitting at her spinning wheel, the legend, "Daughters of the American Revolution," and the motto, "Home and Country."



ARTICLE XIV.

CERTIFICATES.

All members of the Society, wherever admitted, shall be entitled to a certificate of membership duly attested by the President General, Secretary General and Registrar General, countersigned by the Regent, Secretary and Registrar of the Chapter to which such member shall belong.

ARTICLE XV.

INSIGNIA.

ARTICLE XVI.

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE.

The *Adams Magazine* shall be the official exponent of the Society.

ARTICLE XVII.

INDEBTEDNESS.

No debts shall be contracted on behalf of the National Society. Every obligation for the payment of money, except checks drawn against deposits, executed in the name or on behalf of the National Society, shall be null and void.

ARTICLE XVIII.

GUESTS.

The wives of Sons of the American Revolution who are not eligible to membership may be included in all social events of the Society in which their husbands are invited to participate, and husbands of members of this Society who are not eligible to membership in the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, may be invited to participate in such events.

ARTICLE XIX.

AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any meeting of the National Board of Managers, notice thereof having been given at a previous meeting, the same to be subject to ratification or rejection by a majority of votes at the next general meeting of the Society.

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